

Chapter 2

GOALS, MANAGEMENT INTENT, AND GUIDELINES

Introduction

This chapter presents land management policies for each of the major resources affected by the plan: agriculture, habitat, forestry, grazing, heritage, materials, minerals, recreation, tourism, and water. The chapter also presents management policies for several specific land management issues: public and private access, aquatic farming, settlement, shoreline and stream corridors, transportation and utilities, and waterfront development. These policies apply to state land throughout the planning area, regardless of land use designations.

This chapter also includes and management guidelines. Goals are the general condition the department is trying to achieve, and guidelines are specific directives that will be applied to land and water management decisions as resource use and development occur.

Definitions

For definitions of terms commonly used in this chapter, see *Appendix A, Glossary*.

Goals

The following goals are for state lands in the planning area. Goals are general conditions that DNR attempts to achieve through management actions. The goals are listed alphabetically. No single goal has a priority over the others.

Economic Development. Provide opportunities for jobs and income by managing state land and resources to support a vital, self-sustaining local economy.

Fiscal Costs. Minimize the needs for and the fiscal cost of providing government services and facilities, such as schools and roads. Locate settlement uses where there is a sustainable economic base and where necessary services can be efficiently provided.

Public Health and Safety. Maintain or enhance public health and safety for users of state land and resources.

Public Use. Provide and enhance diverse opportunities for public use of state lands, including uses such as hunting, fishing, boating, and other types of recreation.

Quality of Life. Maintain or enhance the quality and diversity of the natural environment, including air, land and water, and fish and wildlife habitat and harvest opportunities; and protect heritage resources and the character and lifestyle of the community.

Settlement. Provide opportunities for private ownership and leasing of land currently owned by the state.

Sustained Yield. Maintain the long-term productivity and quality of renewable resources and all other state-owned replenish able resources on a sustained-yield or optimum-sustained-yield basis, including fish, wildlife, rangelands and forests.

Management Intent

Management intent for state land is based on a resource and use inventory, information on existing and potential trends, current and pending authorizations, plans in place now, and public participation. The planning process included a consideration of alternatives. Public and agency comments on these alternatives and the 1994 draft plan were analyzed. In addition, considerable additional research was conducted on each parcel between 1994 and 1998. The planning team discussed this information in 1998 and extensive changes to the 1994 draft were made including an extensive reformatting of the plan and its policies, guidelines, and management intents. The public and agencies again reviewed these changes in late 1999 and early 2000. In response, DNR made additional changes to the plan prior to its adoption.

General Framework of the Plan

- A. State land within the planning area will be managed to allow for multiple use unless legislatively designated or a parcel of state land is less than 640 acres and managed under a management agreement by another state agency.
- B. State land will also be managed to protect access (except when it is determined that access may be detrimental to a resource, such as brown bears) and public resources. Types of resources to be protected include, but are not limited to, habitat, recreation, water quality, watersheds, scenery, wilderness, and trails.
- C. State land will remain open to mineral entry unless specifically closed.
- D. Activities and authorizations identified in units as “designated uses” may take precedence over other uses that are authorized subsequent to designation. Although some uses are designated, other uses may still be allowed in a given unit. These other uses may be authorized if they are not incompatible with the primary uses or resources for which a unit is designated. This plan emphasizes minimizing land use conflicts through plan guidelines and intent rather than through prohibitions. However, if DNR determines that a proposed use is incompatible with the designated use, the proposed use shall not be authorized or it shall be modified so that the incompatibility no longer exists.
- E. This plan designates state lands in categories that are generally consistent with current use patterns and the most significant resources in the planning area.

Guidelines by Activity or Resource Value

The following guidelines are specific directives that will be applied to management decisions. DNR will use these guidelines when considering issuing authorizations and conveyances or making management decisions on state land. These guidelines will also apply to lands that are currently state selected and topfiled when they are tentatively approved or patented into state ownership.

Chapter 2 guidelines apply to all state land covered by the Kenai Area Plan unless the plan explicitly exempts units or designations from a guideline or the resource or use for which a guideline is intended does not exist in the unit in question.

General

A. All authorizations for use of state land within the planning area will be consistent with the management intent in this plan.

B. In considering authorizations for use of state land, DNR will adjudicate applications to:

1. minimize damage to streambeds, fish and wildlife habitat, vegetation, trails, and other resources;
2. minimize conflicts between resources and uses; and
3. protect the long-term value of the resource, public safety, and the environment.

C. If authorizations from other agencies are required, DNR will consider issuing a permit or lease contingent upon issuance of these other authorizations.

Other State Land

Parcels that are donated or acquired after the plan is adopted will be designated for the uses for which they were acquired or donated without an amendment to the plan. Lands that come into state ownership through other means will be classified after consultation with ADFG.